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PTO/SB/21 (09-06)

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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number   | 09/805,808             |                 |
|   | Filing Date          | 3/31/2001              |                 |
|   | First Named Inventor | Kraft                  |                 |
|   | Art Unit             | 2163                   |                 |
|   | Examiner Name        | Hanh B. Thai           |                 |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | 103                  | Attorney Docket Number | ARC920000147US1 |

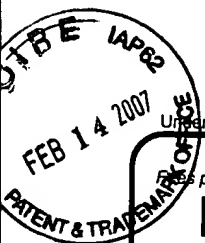
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| Printed name                               | Leonard T. Guzman               |          |        |
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| Typed or printed name   | Leonard T. Guzman | Date | 1/8/2007 |

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PTO/SB/17 (07-06)

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Effective on 12/08/2004.  
Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).**FEE TRANSMITTAL**  
**For FY 2006**☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 500.00

**Complete if Known**

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Application Number   | 09/805,808      |
| Filing Date          | 3/31/2001       |
| First Named Inventor | Kraft           |
| Examiner Name        | Hanh B. Thai    |
| Art Unit             | 2163            |
| Attorney Docket No.  | ARC920000147US1 |

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**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

| Application Type | FILING FEES |                       | SEARCH FEES |                       | EXAMINATION FEES |                       | Fees Paid (\$) |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|                  | Fee (\$)    | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$)    | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$)         | Small Entity Fee (\$) |                |
| Utility          | 300         | 150                   | 500         | 250                   | 200              | 100                   |                |
| Design           | 200         | 100                   | 100         | 50                    | 130              | 65                    |                |
| Plant            | 200         | 100                   | 300         | 150                   | 160              | 80                    |                |
| Reissue          | 300         | 150                   | 500         | 250                   | 600              | 300                   |                |
| Provisional      | 200         | 100                   | 0           | 0                     | 0                | 0                     |                |

**2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES**

| Fee Description  | Fee (\$)            | Small Entity Fee (\$) |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)                                | 50                  | 25                    |
| Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)                     | 200                 | 100                   |
| Multiple dependent claims  | 360                 | 180                   |
| <b>Total Claims</b>  | <b>Extra Claims</b> | <b>Fee (\$)</b>       |
| _____ - 20 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____                               |                     |                       |
| HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.      |                     |                       |
| <b>Indep. Claims</b>   | <b>Extra Claims</b> | <b>Fee (\$)</b>       |
| _____ - 3 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____                                |                     |                       |
| HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3. |                     |                       |
|  |                     | <b>Fee Paid (\$)</b>  |
|  |                     | _____                 |

**3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE**

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

|              |              |  |          |               |
|--------------|--------------|--|----------|---------------|
| Total Sheets | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) |
| _____        | _____        | _____ / 50 = _____ (round up to a whole number)  | x _____  | = _____       |

**4. OTHER FEE(S)**

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Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Filing a brief in support of an appeal

Fees Paid (\$)

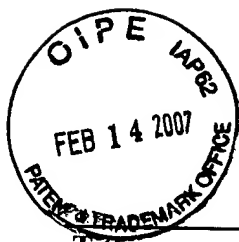
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**SUBMITTED BY**

|                   |                   |  |                        |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|------------------------|
| Signature         |                   | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 46,308 | Telephone 408-927-3377 |
| Name (Print/Type) | Leonard T. Guzman | Date                                     | 1/8/2007               |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES**  
**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Title: "Credibility rating platform"

Applicants: Kraft et al.

Attorney Docket No.: ARC920000147US1

Serial No.: 09/805,808

Examiner: Hanh B. Thai

Filed: March 13, 2001

Art Unit: 2163

5

Mail Stop: Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**APPEAL BRIEF**

Dear Sir:

This appeal brief is submitted under 35 U.S.C. §134. This appeal is further to Appellants'

10 Notice of Appeal filed November 7, 2006.

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**(1) Real Party in Interest**

The real party in interest is International Business Machines Corporation.

**(2) Related Appeals and Interferences**

No other appeals or interferences exist that relate to the present application or appeal.

**(3) Status of Claims**

Claims 1-31 are pending and remain in the application. By the Final Office Action dated August 8, 2006, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lang et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,314,420 (hereinafter “Lang”). All pending claims and all of the rejections are hereby appealed. A copy of the appealed claims is enclosed herewith as Appendix A.

**(4) Status of Amendments**

No amendments are outstanding.

**(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter**

**Independent Claim 1**

Independent claim 1 relates to a system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search, where the system includes (1) an information gathering device adapted to retrieve the document from an information source, (2) an information analysis device adapted to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document, and (3) a credibility rating system adapted to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and provide the at least one credibility rating to the information analysis device, wherein the information analysis device is adapted to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document. (Please see Application as Filed, page 4, lines 5-16, page 5, lines 1-3, and page 9, lines 14-16.)

**Independent Claim 10**

Independent claim 10 relates to a credibility rating system, where the system includes (1) a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an online id to input credibility information associated with the online id into the system for validation, (2) an input validator coupled to the user interface and adapted to verify that the inputted credibility information is correct and to rate the inputted credibility information in the form of a credibility rating, (3) a credibility database adapted to store the on-line identifier and the associated credibility rating, and (4) an application service interface adapted to allow a third party to access the credibility rating from the credibility database. (Please see Application as Filed, page 4, lines 17-30 and page 8, lines 14-22.)

**Independent Claim 14**

Independent claim 14 relates to a method of associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search, where the method includes (1) retrieving the document from an information source, (2) determining an online id associated with at least one author of the document, (3) retrieving at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating system not associated with the document, and (4) associating the at least one credibility rating with the document. (Please see Application as Filed, page 4, lines 5-16, page 5, lines 1-11, and page 9, lines 14-16.)

**Independent Claim 20**

Independent claim 20 relates to a computer program product including a computer useable medium having a computer readable code device embodied therein for causing a computer to associate a credibility rating with a document located in an online search, where the computer readable code device in the computer program product includes (1) a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve the document from an information source, (2) a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document, and (3) a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating. (Please

see Application as Filed, page 4, lines 5-16, page 5, lines 12-27, and page 9, lines 14-16.)

**Independent Claim 22**

Independent claim 22 relates to an article of manufacture including a computer useable medium having a computer readable program code device embodied therein for causing a computer to associate a credibility rating with a document located in an online search, where the computer readable code device in the article of manufacture includes (1) a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve the document from an information source, (2) a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document, and (3) a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating now associated with the document. (Please see Application as Filed, page 4, lines 5-16, page 5, lines 28-32, page 6, lines 1-11, and page 9, lines 14-16.)

**(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

The issue for review is whether claims 1-31 are anticipated by Lang under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

**(7) Argument**

**A. Introduction**

The issue for review is whether claims 1-31 are anticipated by Lang under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

**B. Whether claims 1-31 are anticipated by Lang under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)**

Applicants respectfully traverse the anticipation rejection of 1-31, and submit that claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are not anticipated by Lang, and are patentable thereover. In support of this position, Applicants submit the following arguments:

**1. Legal Standard for Lack of Novelty (Anticipation)**

The standard for lack of novelty, that is, for “anticipation”, is one of strict identity. To anticipate a claim for a patent, a single prior source must contain all its essential elements, and the burden of proving such anticipation is on the party making such assertion of anticipation. Anticipation cannot be shown by combining more than one reference to show the elements of the claimed invention. The amount of newness and usefulness need only be minuscule to avoid a finding of lack of novelty.

The following are two court opinions in support of Applicants’ position of non anticipation, with emphasis added for clarity purposes:

- “Anticipation under Section 102 can be found only if a reference shows **exactly** what is claimed; where there are **differences** between the reference disclosures and the claim, a rejection must be based on obviousness under Section 103.” *Titanium Metals Corp. v. Banner*, 778 F.2d 775, 227 USPQ 773 (Fed. Cir. 1985).
- “**Absence** from a cited reference **of any element** of a claim of a patent negates anticipation of that claim by the reference.” *Kloster Speedsteel AB v. Crucible Inc.*, 793 F.2d 1565, 230 USPQ 81 (Fed. Cir. 1986), on rehearing, 231 USPQ 160 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

## **2. Application of the Anticipation Standard to the Present Invention**

By the Final Office Action dated August 8, 2006, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lang. In order to be an anticipation of a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), a reference must teach every element of the claim, including the relationships between the elements. If any element is not fully taught by the reference, the rejection cannot be sustained.

Evaluating Lang in this light, it is appropriate to examine the portions of Lang which the Examiner has pointed to as teaching the claimed elements.

### **Claims 1-9, 24, 25, and 27-30**

#### **Claim 1**

The Examiner has asserted that

[r]egarding [claim] . . . 1[,] Lang discloses a system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising: an information gathering device (16, Fig.1, Lang) adapted to retrieve the document from an information source (11 and 13, Fig.1 col. 4, line 61 through col. 5, line 12 and col.6, line 38 through col. 7, line 25 and lines 46-62, Lang).

an information analysis device (17 and 35, Fig.1, Lang) adapted to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document (see col.6, line 59 to col.7, line 62; col. 12, lines 39-45 and tables 1-2, col. 27, col. 15, lines 1-3; col. 16, lines 4-46 and col. 18, lines 10-56,

Lang discloses the credibility filtering based on the member client, Community profiles including an online id "A,B,C,D" associated the author, table 1. The "online id" generally referring to author's "a name" or "used to identify" as defined in the specification ¶[0022]); and a credibility rating system (400, Fig. 6, Lang) adapted to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and provide the at least one credibility rating to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document (see Fig.6; col.7, lines 21-25 and lines 50-61; and col.14, lines 26-67; col. 15, lines 29-60 and col. 16, lines 4-19, Lang discloses the rating applied to documents).

(See Office Action, pages 3-4.)

To the extent the Examiner's language at pages 3-4 of the Office Action can be understood, it appears that the Examiner has asserted the following correspondence between Lang and claim 1:

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Claim 1</b> | <b><u>Lang</u></b> |
|----------------|--------------------|



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. A system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:</p> <p>an information gathering device adapted to retrieve the document from an information source;</p> <p>an information analysis device adapted to determine an <i>online id</i> associated with at least one author of the document; and</p> <p>a credibility rating system adapted to <i>retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id</i> from a <i>credibility rating database</i> and provide the at least one credibility rating to the information analysis device, wherein the information analysis device is adapted to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document.</p> | <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.</p> <p><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.</p> |
|--|---|

In reviewing the cited portions of original, however, it becomes apparent that Lang has been generalized, and, in fact, does not support the position asserted by the Examiner.

**an information analysis device adapted to determine an *online id***

**5 associated with at least one author of the document**

In particular, Lang fails to teach “an information analysis device adapted to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”; as required by claim 1. Instead, Lang discloses “[e]xtraction means 17 [that] can identify and extract raw informons

19 from data stream 15” (See Lang, column 6, lines 59-61.) where “the term ‘informon’ comprehends an information entity of potential or actual interest to a particular user.” See Lang, column 3, lines 31-33.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that extraction means 17 could “determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 1 element of “an information analysis device adapted to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document”.

**a credibility rating system adapted to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and provide the at least one credibility rating to the information analysis device, wherein the information analysis device is adapted to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document**

Also, Lang fails to teach “a credibility rating system adapted to retrieve at least one *credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database* and provide the at least one credibility rating to the information analysis device, wherein the information analysis device is adapted to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document”, as required by claim 1. Instead, Lang discloses that

Filter means 21 adaptively filters raw informons 19 and produces proposed informons 23 which are conveyed to User #1 (5) by communication means 25 . . . [where a] proposed informon is a selected raw informon that, based upon respective member client and community profiles, is predicted to be of particular interest to a member client of User 5.

(See Lang, column 7, lines 9-15.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that Filter means 21 could “retrieve at least one *credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database*”. Thus,

5 Lang cannot teach the claim 1 element of “a credibility rating system adapted to retrieve at least one *credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database* and provide the at least one credibility rating to the information analysis device, wherein the information analysis device is adapted to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the  
10 document”. It is therefore clear that Lang cannot teach each element of claim 1 and, therefore, a rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

#### **Claims 2, 4-6, 24, and 27-30**

Since dependent claims 2, 4-6, 24, and 27-30 depend on independent claim 1 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 1, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 2,  
15 4, 5, 6, 24, 27, 28, 29, or 30 and therefore, a rejection of claim 2, 4, 5, 6, 24, 27, 28, 29, or 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

#### **Claim 3**

Since dependent claim 3 depends on dependent claim 2 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 2, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 3, and therefore, a  
20 rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

#### **Claims 7 and 8**

Since dependent claims 7 and 8 depends on dependent claim 6 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 6, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 7 or 8, and therefore, a rejection of claim 7 or 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

#### **Claim 9**

25 Since dependent claim 9 depends on dependent claim 7 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 7, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 9, and therefore, a rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

#### **Claim 25**

Since dependent claim 25 depends on dependent claim 24 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 24, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 25, and therefore, a rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 10-13**

**Claim 10**

The Examiner has asserted that

[r]egarding claim 10, Lang discloses a credibility rating system comprising:

a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an online id to input credibility information associated with a document into the system for validation (5,7,9, Fig. 1, and col. 6, line 59 to col. 7, line 8);  
an input validator coupled to the user interface in correct verify that the inputted credibility information is correct and to rate the inputted credibility information in the form of a credibility rating (see col. 5, lines 1-12 and 7, lines 26-35 and 46-62, Lang);  
a credibility database adapted to store the on-line identifier and the associated credibility rating (see col.6, line 59 to col.7, line 8, lines 9-62; col.12, lines 39-45 and tables1-2, col. 27,  
Lang discloses the credibility filtering based on the member client, community profiles including an online id associated the author 'A,B,C,D', table 1)  
An application service interface adapted to allow a third party to access the credibility rating from the credibility database (see col. Col. 5, lines 25-35 and col. 7, lines 9-62, Lang).  
'Community profiles' corresponds to the 'credibility database'.

(See Office Action, pages 5-6.)

To the extent the Examiner's language at pages 5-6 of the Office Action can be understood, it appears that the Examiner has asserted the following correspondence between Lang and claim 10:

| Claim 10   | <u>Lang</u>   |
|--|---|
| 10. A credibility rating system comprising:<br>a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an <i>online id</i> to input credibility information associated with the <i>online id</i> into the system for validation;<br>an input validator coupled to the user interface and adapted to verify that the inputted credibility information is correct and to rate the inputted credibility information in the form of a credibility rating;<br>a credibility database adapted to store the <i>on-line identifier</i> and the associated credibility rating; and<br>an application service interface adapted to allow a third party to access the credibility rating from the credibility database. | -<br><br><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.<br><br>-<br><br><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.<br><br>- |

5           In reviewing the cited portions of original, however, it becomes apparent that Lang has been generalized, and, in fact, does not support the position asserted by the Examiner.

**a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an *online id* to input credibility information associated with the *online id* into the system for validation**

In particular, Lang fails to teach “a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an *online id* to input credibility information associated with the *online id* into the system for validation”, as required by claim 10. Instead, Lang discloses “[e]xtraction means 17 [that] can identify and extract raw informons 19 from data stream 15” (See Lang, column 6, lines 59-61.) where “the term ‘informon’ comprehends an information entity of potential or actual interest to a particular user.” See Lang, column 3, lines 31-33.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id*”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that extraction means 17 could “allow an owner of an *online id* to input credibility information associated with the *online id* into the system for validation”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 10 element of “a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an *online id* to input credibility information associated with the *online id* into the system for validation”.

**a credibility database adapted to store the on-line identifier and the associated credibility rating**

Also, Lang fails to teach “a credibility database adapted to store the *on-line identifier* and the associated credibility rating”, as required by claim 10. Instead, Lang discloses that “Apparatus 1 also can include a computer storage means 31 for storing the profiles, including the adaptive content profile and the adaptive collaboration profile.” (See Lang, column 8, lines 30-33.) Namely, Lang fails to teach that an on-line identifier is stored in storage means 31. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that Apparatus 1 could be “adapted to store the *on-line identifier* and the associated credibility rating”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 10 element of “a credibility database adapted to store the *on-line identifier* and the associated credibility rating”. It is therefore clear that Lang cannot teach each element of claim 10 and, therefore, a rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 11 and 12**

Since dependent claims 11 and 12 depend on independent claim 10 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 10, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 11 or 12 and therefore, a rejection of claim 11 or 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claim 13**

Since dependent claim 13 depends on dependent claim 11 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 11, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 13, and therefore, a rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 14-19, 26, and 31**

**Claim 14**

The Examiner has asserted that

[r]egarding [claim] . . . 14[,] Lang discloses a system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:  
an information gathering device (16, Fig.1, Lang) adapted to retrieve the document from an information source (11 and 13, Fig.1 col. 4, line 61 through col. 5, line 12 and col.6, line 38 through col. 7, line 25 and lines 46-62, Lang).

an information analysis device (17 and 35, Fig.1, Lang) adapted to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document (see col.6, line 59 to col.7, line 62; col. 12, lines 39-45 and tables 1-2, col. 27, col. 15, lines 1-3; col. 16, lines 4-46 and col. 18, lines 10-56,

Lang discloses the credibility filtering based on the member client, Community profiles including an online id "A,B,C,D" associated the author, table 1. The "online id" generally referring to author's "a name" or "used to identify" as defined in the specification ¶[0022]); and a credibility rating system (400, Fig. 6, Lang) adapted to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and provide the at least one credibility rating to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document (see Fig.6; col.7, lines 21-25 and lines 50-61; and col.14, lines 26-67; col. 15, lines 29-60 and col. 16,

lines 4-19, Lang discloses the rating applied to documents).

(See Office Action, pages 3-4.)

5 To the extent the Examiner's language at pages 3-4 of the Office Action can be understood, it appears that the Examiner has asserted the following correspondence between Lang and claim 14:

| Claim 14   | <u>Lang</u>   |
|--|---|
| 14. A method of associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:<br>retrieving the document from an information source;<br>determining an <i>online id</i> associated with at least one author of the document;<br>retrieving at least one <i>credibility rating associated with the online id</i> from a <i>credibility rating system</i> not associated with the document; and<br>associating the at least one credibility rating with the document. | -<br><br>-<br><br><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.<br><br><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.<br><br>- |

In reviewing the cited portions of original, however, it becomes apparent that Lang has been generalized, and, in fact, does not support the position asserted by the Examiner.

10 **determining an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document**

In particular, Lang fails to teach “determining an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”, as required by claim 14. Instead, Lang discloses “[e]xtraction means 17 [that] can identify and extract raw informons 19 from data stream 15” (See Lang,



column 6, lines 59-61.) where “the term ‘informon’ comprehends an information entity of potential or actual interest to a particular user.” See Lang, column 3, lines 31-33.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that  
5 extraction means 17 could “determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 14 element of “determining an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”.

**retrieving at least one credibility rating associated with the online id  
from a credibility rating system not associated with the document**

10 Also, Lang fails to teach “*retrieving at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating system not associated with the document*”, as required by claim 14. Instead, Lang discloses that

15 Filter means 21 adaptively filters raw informons 19 and produces proposed informons 23 which are conveyed to User #1 (5) by communication means 25 . . . [where a] proposed informon is a selected raw informon that, based upon respective member client and community profiles, is predicted to be of particular interest to a member client of User 5.

20 (See Lang, column 7, lines 9-15.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach Filter means 21 “*retrieving at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating system not associated with the*  
25 *document*”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 14 element of “*retrieving at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating system not associated with the document*”. It is therefore clear that Lang cannot teach each element of claim 14 and, therefore, a rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 15, 16, 18, and 26**

Since dependent claims 15, 16, 18, and 26 depend on independent claim 14 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 14, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 15, 16, 18, or 26, and therefore, a rejection of claim 15, 16, 18, or 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

5                    **Claim 17**

Since dependent claim 17 depends on dependent claim 15 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 15, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 17, and therefore, a rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 19 and 31**

10                Since dependent claims 19 and 31 depend on dependent claim 16 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 16, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 19 or 31, and therefore, a rejection of claim 19 or 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 20 and 21**

**Claim 20**

15                The Examiner has asserted that

[r]egarding [claim] . . . 20[,] Lang discloses a system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:  
an information gathering device (16, Fir.1, Lang) adapted to retrieve the  
20                document from an information source (11 and 13, Fig.1 col. 4, line 61 through col. 5, line12 and col.6, line 38 through col. 7, line 25 and lines 46-62, Lang).

an information analysis device (17 and 35, Fig.1, Lang) adapted to  
determine an online id associated with at least one author of the  
25                document (see col.6, line 59 to col.7, line 62; col. 12, lines 39-45 and tables1-2, col. 27, col. 15, lines 1-3; col. 16, lines 4-46 and col. 18, lines 10-56,

Lang discloses the credibility filtering based on the member client,  
Community profiles including an online id “A,B,C,D” associated the



|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>device for causing a computer to determine an <i>online id</i> associated with at least one author of the document; and</p> <p>a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to <i>retrieve</i> at least one <i>credibility rating associated with the online id</i> from a <i>credibility rating database</i> and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating.</p> | <p><u>Lang</u> does not teach this claim element.</p> |
|---|---|

In reviewing the cited portions of original, however, it becomes apparent that Lang has been generalized, and, in fact, does not support the position asserted by the Examiner.

**a computer readable program code device for causing a computer**

**5 to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document**

In particular, Lang fails to teach “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”, as required by claim 20. Instead, Lang discloses “[e]xtraction means 17 [that] can identify and extract raw informons 19 from data stream 15” (See Lang, column 6, lines 59-10 61.) where “the term ‘informon’ comprehends an information entity of potential or actual interest to a particular user.” See Lang, column 3, lines 31-33.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that extraction means 17 could “determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Thus, 15 Lang cannot teach the claim 20 element of “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”.

**a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve at least one *credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database* and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating**

5 Also, Lang fails to teach “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to *retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database* and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating”, as required by claim 20. Instead, Lang discloses that

10 Filter means 21 adaptively filters raw informons 19 and produces proposed informons 23 which are conveyed to User #1 (5) by communication means 25 . . . [where a] proposed informon is a selected raw informon that, based upon respective member client and  
15 community profiles, is predicted to be of particular interest to a member client of User 5.

(See Lang, column 7, lines 9-15.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the  
20 document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach Filter means 21 “causing a computer to *retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database*”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 20 element of “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to *retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database* and associate the at least one credibility rating with the  
25 document and allow a user to access the credibility rating”. It is therefore clear that Lang cannot teach each element of claim 20 and, therefore, a rejection of claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claim 21**

Since dependent claim 21 depends on independent claim 20 and since Lang cannot teach each element of claim 20, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 21, and therefore, a rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**Claims 22 and 23**

**Claim 22**

The Examiner has asserted that

[r]egarding [claim] . . . 22[,] Lang discloses a system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:  
an information gathering device (16, Fir.1, Lang) adapted to retrieve the document from an information source (11 and 13, Fig.1 col. 4, line 61 through col. 5, line12 and col.6, line 38 through col. 7, line 25 and lines 46-62, Lang).

an information analysis device (17 and 35, Fig.1, Lang) adapted to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document (see col.6, line 59 to col.7, line 62; col. 12, lines 39-45 and tables1-2, col. 27, col. 15, lines 1-3; col. 16, lines 4-46 and col. 18, lines 10-56,

Lang discloses the credibility filtering based on the member client, Community profiles including an online id “A,B,C,D” associated the author, table 1. The “online id” generally referring to author’s “a name” or “used to identify” as defined in the specification ¶[0022]); and a credibility rating system (400, Fig. 6, Lang) adapted to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and provide the at least one credibility rating to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the at least one credibility rating now associated with the document (see Fig.6; col.7, lines 21-25 and lines 50-61; and col.14, lines 26-67; col. 15, lines 29-60 and col. 16,



|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| now associated with the document. |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|

In reviewing the cited portions of original, however, it becomes apparent that Lang has been generalized, and, in fact, does not support the position asserted by the Examiner.

**a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document**

In particular, Lang fails to teach “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”, as required by claim 22. Instead, Lang discloses “[e]xtraction means 17 [that] can identify and extract raw informons 19 from data stream 15” (See Lang, column 6, lines 59-61.) where “the term ‘informon’ comprehends an information entity of potential or actual interest to a particular user.” See Lang, column 3, lines 31-33.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach that extraction means 17 could “determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”. Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 22 element of “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an *online id* associated with at least one author of the document”.

**a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve at least one *credibility rating* associated with the *online id* from a *credibility rating database* and associate the at least one *credibility rating* with the document and allow a user to access the *credibility rating* now associated with the document**

Also, Lang fails to teach “a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to *retrieve* at least one *credibility rating* associated with the *online id* from a *credibility rating database* and associate the at least one *credibility rating* with the document and allow a user to access the *credibility rating* now associated with the document”, as required by claim 22. Instead, Lang discloses that

Filter means 21 adaptively filters raw informons 19 and produces



proposed informons 23 which are conveyed to User #1 (5) by  
communication means 25 . . . [where a] proposed informon is a  
selected raw informon that, based upon respective member client and  
community profiles, is predicted to be of particular interest to a member  
5 client of User 5.

(See Lang, column 7, lines 9-15.) Namely, Lang fails to equate an “informon” to or include  
as an example of an “informon” “an *online id* associated with at least one author of the  
document”. Therefore, Lang fails to teach Filter means 21 “causing a computer to *retrieve* at  
10 least one *credibility rating associated with the online id* from a *credibility rating database*”.  
Thus, Lang cannot teach the claim 22 element of “a computer readable program code device  
for causing a computer to *retrieve* at least one *credibility rating associated with the online id*  
from a *credibility rating database* and associate the at least one credibility rating with the  
document and allow a user to access the credibility rating now associated with the document”.  
15 It is therefore clear that Lang cannot teach each element of claim 22 and, therefore, a rejection  
of claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

### **Claim 23**

Since dependent claim 23 depends on independent claim 22 and since Lang cannot  
teach each element of claim 22, Lang also cannot teach each element of claim 23, and  
20 therefore, a rejection of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is inappropriate.

**CONCLUSION**

All the claims presently on file in the present application are in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the application has now been brought into a condition where allowance of the case is proper. Reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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## **APPENDIX A**

### **CLAIMS APPENDIX**

- 5 1. A system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:
- an information gathering device adapted to retrieve the document from an information source;
- an information analysis device adapted to determine an online id associated with at
- 10 least one author of the document; and
- a credibility rating system adapted to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and provide the at least one credibility rating to the information analysis device, wherein the information analysis device is adapted to associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the
- 15 at least one credibility rating now associated with the document.
2. The system of claim 1 further comprising a searchable index adapted to store an association of the credibility rating of the online id with the document, wherein the association is accessible by a search engine.
- 20 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the searchable index is adapted to map a unique identifier associated with the document to the associated credibility rating.
4. The system of claim 1 wherein the document is a web page and the web page has a
- 25 unique identifier comprising a uniform resource locator ("URL").
5. The system of claim 1 wherein the online search is an Internet search and the document is retrieved from the Internet.
- 30 6. The system of claim 1 wherein the credibility rating system comprises:

a user interface adapted to allow an owner of the online id to input information into the credibility rating system that can be validated and write the information into a credibility database wherein the information is stored and associated with the online id;

5 an input validator coupled to the user interface and adapted to verify that the input by the owner is correct and to determine the credibility rating, the credibility rating reflecting the input; and

an application service interface adapted to allow a third party to access the credibility rating stored in the credibility rating system.

10 7. The system of claim 6 wherein the user interface further comprises:

a profiling interface adapted to allow a mapping of the online id to an online credibility rating;

a rating import module adapted to allow rating information from outside sources to be linked to the credibility database; and

15 a message rating interface adapted to allow the online id to input statements related to a validity of the document and determine a weight of the statement based on a statement analysis, the weight of the statement being used by the input validator to determine the credibility rating.

20 8. The system of claim 6 further comprising a message posting module coupled to the credibility database and adapted to allow the owner of the online id to distribute a message linked to the credibility rating that allows a third party recipient to view the message and the credibility rating.

25 9. The system of claim 7 further comprising an application access point coupled to the credibility database adapted to allow a third party to submit a query for the credibility rating associated with the online id.

10. A credibility rating system comprising:

a user interface adapted to allow an owner of an online id to input credibility information associated with the online id into the system for validation;

an input validator coupled to the user interface and adapted to verify that the inputted credibility information is correct and to rate the inputted credibility information in the form of a credibility rating;

a credibility database adapted to store the on-line identifier and the associated credibility rating; and

an application service interface adapted to allow a third party to access the credibility rating from the credibility database.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the user interface further comprises:

a profiling interface adapted to allow a mapping of the author identifier to an online credibility rating;

a rating import module adapted to allow rating information from outside sources to be linked to the credibility rating in the credibility database; and

a message rating interface adapted to determine a weight of the inputted credibility information based on a statement analysis of the inputted information.

12. The system of claim 10 further comprising a message posting module coupled to the credibility database and adapted to allow the author to distribute a message linked to the credibility rating and that allows a recipient to view the message and the credibility rating.

13. The system of claim 11 further comprising an application access point coupled to the credibility database adapted to allow a third party to submit a query for the credibility rating associated with an online identifier.

14. A method of associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:

retrieving the document from an information source;

determining an online id associated with at least one author of the document;  
retrieving at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility  
rating system not associated with the document; and  
associating the at least one credibility rating with the document.

5

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of determining an online id of a document  
comprises the step of extracting an author information code from a header tag of an HTML  
document.

10 16. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of developing a credibility rating  
for an online id, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an input from the online id related to a credibility profile for the online id;  
validating the input by determining a weight of the input;  
assigning the credibility rating to the online id; and  
15 storing the credibility rating in a searchable index.

17. The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of integrating the credibility rating  
vector into a search engine using a ranking algorithm.

20 18. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of reordering a search result list  
comprising a list of documents returned from the Internet search relative to the credibility  
rating associated with each document.

19. The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of displaying a symbol on the  
25 information indicating the quality rating to the user.

20. A computer program product comprising:

a computer useable medium having a computer readable code device embodied therein for causing a computer to associate a credibility rating with a document located in an online search, the computer readable code device in the computer program product comprising:

5 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve the document from an information source;

a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document; and

10 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating.

21. The computer program product of claim 20 further comprising:

15 a computer useable medium having computer readable code device embodied therein for causing a computer to allow an owner of the online id to formulate the credibility rating for the online id, the computer readable code device in the computer program product comprising:

20 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to allow the owner of the online id to input information into the system that can be validated and write the information into a credibility database wherein the information is stored and associated with the online id;

a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to verify that the input by the owner is correct and determine the credibility rating based on the input; and

25 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to allow a third party to access the credibility rating stored in the credibility rating system.

22. An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer useable medium having a computer readable program code device embodied therein for causing a computer to associate a credibility rating with a document located in an online search, the computer readable code device in the article of manufacture comprising:

5 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve the document from an information source;

a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to determine an online id associated with at least one author of the document; and

10 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to retrieve at least one credibility rating associated with the online id from a credibility rating database and associate the at least one credibility rating with the document and allow a user to access the credibility rating now associated with the document.

23. The article of manufacture of claim 22 further comprising:

15 a computer useable medium having a computer readable program code device embodied therein for causing a computer to allow an owner of the online id to develop a credibility rating profile for the online id, the computer readable code device in the article of manufacture comprising:

20 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to allow the owner of the online id to input information into the system that can be validated and write the information into a credibility database wherein the information is stored and associated with the online id;

a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to verify that the input by the owner is correct and to determine the credibility rating relative to the input; and

25 a computer readable program code device for causing a computer to allow a third party to access the credibility rating stored in the credibility rating system.

24. The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one credibility rating associated with the online id includes subject matter specific credibility ratings.



25. The method of claim 24 wherein the information analysis device is adapted to correlate a subject matter of the document with the at least one credibility rating that corresponds to the subject matter of the document.

5 26. The method of claim 14 further comprising:  
determining a subject matter of the document; and  
associating with the document at least one credibility rating, from the at least one credibility rating associated with the online id, that corresponds to the subject matter of the document.

10

27. The system of claim 1 wherein the information gathering device and the information analysis device are located in separate domains.

15 28. The system of claim 1 wherein the credibility rating is a rating of at least one author associated with the document.

29. The system of claim 1 wherein the credibility rating database holds credibility ratings for an online ID that are categorized by subject matter.

20 30. The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one credibility rating comprises a credibility information vector based on a combination of credibility ratings in at least one subject domain associated with the online ID.

25 31. The method of claim 16 wherein the weight of the input is determined by a date input, a domain of the content, a time duration associated with the input and an action associated with the input.

**APPENDIX B**

**EVIDENCE APPENDIX**

- 5 There is no applicable evidence.

**APPENDIX C**

**RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX**

- 5 There are no related proceedings.